Docket No.: 60188-063 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Bunji MIZUNO, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: April 24, 2001

Examiner:

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, please insert the following subsection:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/178,766, filed October 26, 1998, which is a divisional of 08/734,218, filed October 21, 1996, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.--

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Michael E Fogarty Registration No. 36,139

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Date: April 24, 2001 Facsimile: (202) 756-8087 Docket No.: 60188-063 PATENT

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CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 120, Applicants hereby claim the priority of U. S. Patent Application No. 09/178,766, filed October 26, 1998, of which this application is a Continuation-In-Part, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/734,218, filed October 21, 1996, which claims the benefit of the priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 of:

Japanese Patent Application No. 7-274234, filed October 23, 1995

The certified copy was filed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/734,218 in support of the claim of priority. Acknowledgement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Michael E. Fogarty Registration No. 36,139

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